

THE MORNING POST

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THE WEATHER TODAY: Slightly cooler.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1902.

JUDGE WOMACK'S GREAT SPEECH

No one at all acquainted with public affairs or with the gentleman, can question Senator Pritchard's ability or his capacity for shrewd political management, but we must say that he lost his grip woefully when he accepted the juggling of figures, prepared evidently by some one who is more adept at juggling than sincere in his confidence in or respect for the people, as a basis for his charges of Democratic extravagance and challenge for a comparison of Democratic with Fusion administration.

The Post has intruded some figures and facts, taken from the records, upon the attention of the Senator during the past few days. But Judge Womack, in his speech at Smithfield yesterday, was simply merciless in his exposure of the gross errors of statement and figures of the Greensboro speech and platform of the Republicans. Not only the public in general, but the taxpayers in particular, will read the statements and conclusions contained in the masterful exposition of Republican-Fusion mismanagement and the successful efforts of the Democrats in dealing with Fusion deficits, meeting urgent demands upon the Christian philanthropy of the people at the same time without any increase of the rate of taxes levied upon the people.

It was very artful on the part of our Republican friends to charge against the Democratic administration and legislative expenditures which Fusion mismanagement and Fusion recklessness in administration contracted but left to Democrats to provide for. Judge Womack shows that this mismanagement and unnecessary extravagance on the part of the Fusion government, from 1895 to 1901—the Fusion legislature controlling the purse strings in 1895 and 1896, and a Fusion Governor, Legislature and Supreme Court controlling during 1897 and 1898 and a Fusion Governor and Supreme Court in 1899 and 1900—in connection especially with the penitentiary, useless litigation and legal expenses, cost the State more than the appropriations by the Democrats for permanent improvements and enlargement of our penal and charitable institutions amount to, and but for this waste of money and Fusion debts which the Democrats had to meet, the revenues of the State would have promptly met every expenditure and all the increased appropriations without the increase of the rate of public taxation upon the people one mill. In other words, notwithstanding the increased appropriations and expenditures for education, Confederate soldiers and insane asylums of \$805,529.71 in 1899, 1900 and 1901 more than the Republicans appropriated or expended for these objects in 1897 and

1898, Judge Womack shows from the records that but for the amount wasted in one way and another by the Fusionists the revenues would have met every appropriation. So the deficit of \$320,000 which will have to be met next winter, is fully covered by the debts which the Fusionists turned over to the Democratic legislatures of 1899 and 1901.

We invite the attention of the people generally and Democratic canvassers in particular to this powerful speech of Judge Womack. Every figure is taken from the official records, every comparison faithfully made, every circumstance commented upon a matter of common notoriety or official report. It is a fearful arraignment of the misrule to which the people were subjected while Fusion held sway, but it was recklessly invited by the Republicans at Greensboro and is demanded in vindication of the truth of history and defence of honest efforts by the Democratic administration to give the people "clean, able and economical government."

THE GEORGIA ASSESSMENT

Some days ago the charge was made in certain quarters, of course for the sinister purpose of discrediting our Corporation Commission, Democratic Governor and Legislature, that the authorities of Georgia had increased the assessment of the Southern Railway properties in that State more than three millions of dollars, and comparing that assessment with the assessment of the property of the same corporation in this State, which was said to be only about \$10,000 per mile, mentioning the line of the Southern from Pelham to the South Carolina line, thus implying that that line was only assessed at \$10,000 per mile. Knowing the animus of this charge and its purpose to make a false impression on the people, The Post gave the figures from the reports of our State Corporation Commission showing that this line, from Pelham to Greensboro, was assessed by our State authorities at more than \$27,000 per mile and the whole road from Goldsboro to Charlotte, which embraces 93 miles from Greensboro to Charlotte and including the little three-mile branch line to the Carolina Mills near this city, was assessed at \$20,000 per mile. In Georgia, the portion, and the valuable portion of the Southern property—the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line—a part of that which was chosen for illustration in this State—was assessed at only \$14,000 per mile. The Comptroller General, the State officer having such matter in charge, did increase this more than \$3,000,000, but the laws of the State permit an appeal from the assessment of this officer to a board of arbitrators, whose judgment is final, of which the State selects one, the railroad making the appeal selects the other, and the third to be a member of the State Corporation Commission. An appeal was made by the Southern from the assessment by the Comptroller General, and the arbitration board, composed of Judge Atkinson of the State Railroad Commission, Messrs. Howard Thompson and J. J. Strickland chosen by the State and the Southern respectively, heard argument at considerable length and in detail on part of the State and by Col. Henry Miller on part of the Southern. The result was, unanimously reached by the arbitrators, to increase the assessment on this line from \$14,000 to \$16,000 per mile—aggregating some \$300,000 increase rather than the more than three million increase put on by the Comptroller. Colonel Miller was complimented both on the result and directly by the Comptroller General himself and the arbitrators for his argument and the full and frank exhibit of every detail of the property and its resources, and this final ruling was accepted as just and equitable by the officers of the State and people thereof concerned.

While our State Commission has assessed a number of the short branch lines of the Southern which scarcely pay operating expenses, less than \$16,000 per mile, they have assessed every mile of the main lines from \$16,000 to \$27,000 per mile. And yet vigorous as well as vicious assaults have been made from time to time in a certain paper and by certain demagogues upon the authorities for their not taking the railroads by the throat and riding all the pockets as if our people were vulgar footpads whose purpose it is to hold up every enterprise or citizen that may be accomplishing something for themselves and the public.

The Caucasian indulges in this entirely gratuitous fling: "If Governor Aycock will study the school statistics of North Carolina he will see that it is better school attendance rather than a large increase in funds that is needed to educate the bulk of the poor, ignorant boys of the State before they get disfranchised by the amendment. We suggest that he give attention to this phase of the question in the so-called campaign of education."

While Gov. Aycock and other gentlemen who are devoting their energies to this educational problem have urged the

fact that any increase of the school fund must come from local taxation—the people of each county, community or school district providing it by taxing themselves—the real burden of their song has been to arouse the educational spirit within every citizen so as to assure the attendance of all the children upon the schools. Neither legislation nor an increased school fund of themselves will educate the children or prepare "poor ignorant boys" for the ballot. In this instance it is the parents who must be educated to the needs of sending the boys and girls to the schools which are now provided, and impress upon them the importance to themselves as citizens of an educated household. It is a fact that, in general, those parents who fail or refuse to send their children to the schools are ignorant and they have not, certainly heretofore appreciated the necessity for an education of their offspring. They have "got along" so far themselves, and have at least acted upon the principle that those who come after can get along likewise. They are sadly mistaken in this view, and it should be as is the object of all interested in the betterment of the people as a whole to impress upon all the greater burdens which ignorance now impose contrasted with past conditions and the greater importance education becomes in the daily life of each individual to meet the exigencies which wait upon all humanity under the changed and changing conditions.

The Caucasian is right in its statement that "it is better school attendance rather than a large increase in school funds" that present conditions demand, but its fling at the Governor and what it styles "the so-called campaign of education" is very unbecoming and unwarranted by the facts and the earnest efforts of those engaged in the work. This "so-called campaign of education" carries to the people immediately concerned the fact that the Democratic party has established and intends to maintain in every school district in the State a good school for not less and in many counties even more than four months during each year, and the further important admission that the public having performed its duty the responsibility now rests upon the people to do their duty not only by their own children, but to themselves, their country and their God.

The Detroit Journal gives the following: "The history of the anthracite coal trust goes far towards explaining the attitude of the trust toward the strikers and the public. Thirty years ago the Reading Railway was doing a legitimate railway business only, and paying its stockholders 12 per cent. The coal mines were at the same time operated profitably by legitimate coal companies. The president of the Reading, Francis B. Gowen, conceived the idea of the railway acquiring the coal mines. He organized a coal and iron company, virtually the Reading, under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and began to buy the largest coal mines, paying part cash and part stock. When he had secured the largest collieries he began a process of squeezing, amounting to actual robbery. The small mine owners were refused coal cars, lost their customers, found their property valueless, and were glad to sell for a song to the Reading."

This is interesting and instructive, though discovering a very reprehensible method of procedure toward monopoly. But there is a very important omission from the statement of conditions, which existed at the time Mr. Gowen started upon his wild career. We are told that at that time the railroad company was earning 12 per cent, actually paying that amount to stockholders, and that the coal mines were "operated profitably." Now what would be very useful information in connection with that statement would be the rates then charged by the railroad for passenger and freight service, and how much per ton the coal then cost the consumer. Also whether the miners received more or less than they now for digging and lifting the coal from the bowels of the earth. Of course we must assume that the traveling and shipping public paid that 12 per cent profit to the railroad stockholders, and the consuming public paid for the "profitable operation" of the mines. It would be no violation of the truth to say that this same class continue to pay such dividends or profits as either the railroad or the operation of the mines produce. It still would be very interesting, in connection with the statement and argument of our Detroit contemporary to know whether freight and passenger rates were higher to the public then than now and how much; whether coal was higher or cheaper to the consumer then than now and how much; whether the mines paid more then to miners than now and how much.

The consolidation of ownership and management of these interests may have been, and at this present writing during this election year it is prudent to insist was, a wicked thing per se. The scheme, in conception, purpose, method and result, was no doubt a villainous representation in the person of Mr. Gowen and his immediate associates "for revenue only." But while these gentlemen, or pirates probably, were consolidating their opportunities and resources and facilities it would be interesting to know how the consumers of coal and the travelers and shippers and those who remained in the employment of the railroads and mine owners fared as an immediate and subsequent consequence.

When the public is invited to consider such important problems as the coal strike and combinations have developed it should be given all the facts relating thereto—the unvarnished truth.

The Post presents a symposium of addresses delivered yesterday in different sections of the State by able exponents of real Democracy, which will be interesting to its readers. We today have reports of the speeches of Hon. John S. Henderson delivered at Lincoln, of Hon. Robert N. Page delivered at Rockingham, of Hon. Robert W. Winston delivered at Graham, and Hon. Thomas B. Womack delivered at Smithfield. Other speeches yesterday were by Hon. Claude Kitchin at Wilson, Hon. John H. Small at Greenville, Hon. W. W. Kitchin at Smithfield, Hon. Dan Hugh McLeese at Salisbury, Hon. S. Y. Webb and A. C. Avery at Bakersville and Hon. J. M. Gudgey at Robesonville.

With Hon. Locke Craig at Shelby and Hon. Charles R. Thomas at Burgaw on Monday, followed by those delivered yesterday, the battle for Democracy and a continuance of good government in the State has opened under the most favorable auspices. The fighting will be kept up all along the line, and upon the same high plane from now on.

The Washington Post of yesterday observes: "The fact that Senator Pritchard was freed from Oyster Bay when he steered the North Carolina Republicans into their new departure fairly bulges with significance."

Well, it did "bulge" the colored brother clear out at the rear end of the party and over the fence, besides settling the element who thought they were something down to the fact that the Senator was there for business and it was his business and not theirs.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY

Saved His Boy's Life "I believe I saved my (nine year old) boy's life this winter with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy," says A. M. Hoppe, Rio Creek, Wis. "He was so choked up with croup that he could not speak. I gave it to him freely until he vomited and in a short time he was all right." For sale by Crowell McLarty & Co., Bobbit-Wynne Drug Co., North Side Drug Store, W. G. Thomas.

CALL IS DEFIANT

A Card from the Republican Member of the State Board of Elections To the Editor of The Post: Your paper of the 30th ult. contains resolutions condemning the appointment of E. B. Barkley as member of the election board of Wilkes county passed by the delegates from the eighth district to the state convention.

I have no word of censure for the gentlemen who compose that delegation from any other county than Wilkes. So far as I know they are all gentlemen of integrity, but allowed themselves to be badly misled by the Wilkes delegation, part of whom are calculated to make any kind of representations about anything. Now, as to Mr. Barkley's appointment, Senator Pritchard wrote me to send a list of names to furnish the state board. I did so. On my way to Raleigh to the meeting of the board I saw Mr. Freeman and had a conversation with him and found that the names I had sent the senator were not on the list. My suspicions were at once aroused to the fact that the senator had never seen the list I sent and that the same for some cause had been withheld from him. A letter from him dated the 29th of August states that he did not see my list and confirms my suspicion that my first convictions as to the matter were correct, to wit: That the letter was intentionally kept from him. Mr. Freeman told me that the senator had told him that any changes necessary to be made could be made. With this information I put the name of Mr. Barkley on the list and had him appointed. I did not do this out of any disrespect or discourtesy for Senator Pritchard or to in any way injure the cause of republicanism in Wilkes.

It is very strange to me that Congressman Blackburn and those who swing to his coat tail should be so disappointed in Mr. Barkley's being on the board. I am sure he has the confidence of all good Republicans in Wilkes. Of course the insurgents do not like him because he has been a thorn in their flesh, and more than that Mr. Barkley is honorable, upright, capable and competent. He is the one-legged man who carried the township for Blackburn in the last primary with fifty-eight white men for him to five against him, each party being for Blackburn and the fight being over the postoffice. He has the confidence and respect of every respectable white man in his township and county and wherever he is known, and no vile-mouthed slanderer can traduce his character by resolutions or otherwise secured by false representations. After carrying his township and proving his loyalty to Blackburn he had him removed from the postoffice at North Wilkesboro because of his loyalty to Lumey two years ago. No doubt Blackburn's conscience lashes him about Barkley for he knows he ignored the wishes of nine-tenths of the Republicans in North Wilkesboro and all the business men, and over one hundred of the leading and prominent Republicans of the county who had given him their unqualified endorsement when he turned the poor, one-legged fellow out of the postoffice and put in his place a burly fellow who has never been worth a copper to the party except as an insurgent.

The resolution is untimely and calculated to widen the breach already too wide in Wilkes. It can do Mr. Barkley no harm for he stands as a giant in character, honor and integrity over his would-be traducers and slanderers. As to my having him appointed, I have no apologies to make to any one. What I say I say in justice to the state board and to Mr. Barkley. Respectfully, CLARENCE CALL, Wilkesboro, N. C., Sept. 1, 1902.

Newspaper Growth (St. Louis Republic) Wood, Bennett, Greely, Prentice and Raymond—the grand "tree" of the old school—were in a small company when

they virtually ruled public opinion. There were only 254 daily papers in existence in 1850. Today there are 2,226. In 1850 the combined circulation of the papers was 708,454, while in 1900 the circulation was 15,102,356. The aggregate number of copies issued during the year 1890 was 426,409,978, while in 1900 it was 8,168,148,749. It must be admitted that this growth in circulation has followed a change in the so-called mission of the newspaper. A half century ago no statesman felt secure unless he had the editorial support of the papers. The press did not then, as now, express and lead public opinion, but formed it. Today the highest calling of the newspaper is to truthfully furnish the news. No daily can make editorial expression the leading feature and survive. Railroads, telegraph and cable have made communication so easy that the desire of the people for the best news has made the circulation of the better papers increase by leaps and bounds.

With the betterment of transportation facilities the weekly press has failed to keep pace with the daily. From 1880 to 1890 the increase in the daily was 25.9 per cent; from 1890 to 1900 it was 30.2 per cent; while the increase in weekly circulation dropped from 28.7 per cent, between 1880 and 1890 to 14.7 per cent, in the last decade.

There was \$192,443,708 invested in newspapers and periodicals in 1900. They had 27,579 salaried employees, who received \$27,015,791, and 94,604 wage earners, who received \$50,338,051. Material cost \$50,214,904, and the money value of the products was \$222,083,569. There is no way of computing the actual value of the product in promoting advancement and saving the cost of mistakes which ignorance makes at every turn.

YE ABBREVIATDE COURTS

Dan Cupid shotte atte my sweteherte's herte, Butte shee dodged, and ye arrows Mr. Soe I tooke ayme atte hyr swete redde lippes And, in spye of hyr dodgemyng, Kr. Ye dere lytel soule was quyte dysmayd; Butte, explaining I was ye Dr., I have applyde more two-lyng salve, And in my armes' craydel Kr.

Shee whyspered that shee'd a syster bee, And "oldent I bee juste a Bro." "Notte muche, pettie" I sayd; "trie this instedde!" Heir I jentille gayve her Ano.

"My trewe love, canst thou notte bee my bryde?" I questionned—and pressed for ye Ans. A softe voyce behynde myne care replyde, "You're soe pressing, perhappes I Cans."

Nowe, "faynte herte never wonne laydie fayr" No more ever changed Miss to Mrs.— And ye love a mayde, bee notte afraide, Butte, when arrowes fle wyde, trie Kr. —W. E. P. French, in Harper's Magazine.

Uses for \$1,000,000

(Philadelphia Times) Seated with some congenial cronies in a cool corner of a roof garden the other night was James Connor Roach, actor, playwright, wit and raconteur. They had been discussing wealth and what it meant to be a man of millions, when Roach said: "Now, how many of us here tonight know what \$1,000,000 really means? How many people in general know? "Some think of a million as a check for that amount signed by George Gould and indorsed by Russell Sage. Others picture great heaps of gold. "When I hear poor chaps like us speaking of millions I think of the story of three of my countrymen who were digging a sewer in Kensington. "They had shovels with very short handles, and the dirt had to be thrown higher the deeper they dug, so the longer they worked the more energy had to be expended. "One noon hour they were seated along the fence, eating dinner, when Pat said: "Myes, do yez know what I'd do if I had a millyun dollars? I'd buy meself a job as portner on a Pullman car and spend the rest of me days in luxury. "Mike removed his pipe from his mouth, sighed as he looked at his pail, and said: "Well, well now, would yez? I'd buy m one of the big corner saloons with all the loogin' glasses, and iv'ry time I took a drink I'd see meself twenty-four times takin' it. "The whistle summoned them to work when Jim gave his opinion. Holding his lame old back with one

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hand and reaching for his shovel, he declared: "If I had a millyun dollars I'd add two feet to the handles of all these shovells."

Begun Antiques

(London Daily News) The remarkable disclosures that one of the ancient Roman statues in the Museum at Vienna is found to be rich in tobacco products, and to be, in fact, indisputably made from the worn-out moustache of a pipe and cigar-holder, will send a shock through all the cabinets (with a small c) in Europe. It is now asserted that the majority of the antique works of art of this description are the work of contemporary Greeks, who appear to have made this unscrupulous industry theirs. As Lord Macaulay has it in a well-known lay: Such cunning they who live on high Have given unto the Greek. We may even adapt another line from the same source, by the alteration of one word, to form a motto for the collector of such curiosities: "Leave to the Greek his amber nymphs!"

Henry L. Shattuck of Shellsburg, Iowa, was cured of a stomach trouble with which he had been afflicted for years, by four boxes of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. He had previously tried many other remedies and a number of physicians without relief. For sale by Crowell McLarty & Co., Bobbit-Wynne Drug Co., North Side Pharmacy, W. G. Thomas.

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